

## Carl Vinson / CVW-9 Sailor of the Day **AMAN Omar Chavez**

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AMAN Omar Chavez of the VS-33 "Screwbirds" was selected as Sailor of the Day because "he works with a smile on his face as well as maintains a positive attitude toward the Navy and his career.' according to ADCS(AW) John Amenhauser, who has seen Chavez' work first hand. Chavez is TAD from the Screwbirds' Line Division to the "Gold Eagle" Supply Department's S-11 Division better known as the "Chiefs' Mess."



Chavez entered the Navy undesignated but had an "A" school guarantee after six months. He selected Aviation Mechanic to help boost his chances in the competitive "Smokejumper" job market.

Today's Sailor of the Day, AMAN Omar Chavez of VS-33 "Screwbirds," joined the Navy a year-and-a-half ago looking for adventure.

"Since joining, I have been around the world twice," said Chavez who has already seen areas like Australia, Italy, Kuwait and Spain.

Chavez joined the Navy undesignated but was guaranteed an "A" school after six months. He chose the Aviation Mechanic (AM) rating to help his chances of pursuing a career once his enlistment is over.

"Before joining, I was qualified as EMT Basic, and Fire fighting level I and II," said Chavez. "I applied to the El Paso fire department and was told I would have to wait. A year-and-a-half later I thought I was denied admission to the Fire Academy, so I joined the Navy, so, I could have aviation experience to help boost my chances of joining the Smokejumpers."

Smokejumpers parachute from aircraft into forests that are unable to be entered by land to combat fires. A dangerous job, but Chavez admits he really enjoys fire fighting and was disappointed when he returned from bootcamp to see his admittance into the Fire Academy.

"I contacted the school and they agreed to keep my admittance on hold 'till after my military obligation," said Chavez.

When not working in the aviation CPO berthing on the O-3 level, Chavez works on his plane captain qualifications and studies for the 3rd class petty officer exam.



Chavez ensures the Chiefs' laundry is delivered and picked up on time.



